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CONGRATULATING PAINT BRANCH HIGH SCHOOL ON BEING DESIGNATED A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE AND A NEW AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL

### HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 16, 2000*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, today I honor and congratulate the students, parents, and faculty of Paint Branch High School on receiving a Blue Ribbon School Award from the United States Department of Education. Achieving this honor demonstrates the commitment that both the faculty and administrators of Paint Branch have made to their students.

Paint Branch High School is continuously dedicated to excellence and committed to success. As Chair of the House Technology Subcommittee, I am especially proud of the science and media signature program. This program combines educational opportunities with three area high schools. Each school has its own signature program based on staff strengths and student interest. Additionally, Paint Branch High School is one of few in the county to offer three special education programs to help our students with special needs.

This weekend, Paint Branch High School will celebrate their great achievements. On October 13th Paint Branch students will hold a pep rally to share enthusiasm of this award and for the school's homecoming. In addition, the community celebration will bring together faculty, students, local business and community leaders. The National Blue Ribbon flag will be unveiled on Homecoming day, which will conclude the celebration. I congratulate the faculty, students and their supporters in organizing these events.

As a former educator in the Montgomery County's public school system, I am proud to recognize Paint Branch High School for its outstanding educational and extracurricular programs. I congratulate the school's students, faculty, supportive parents, and dedicated administrators. In addition, I thank Principal Fred Lowenbach whose leadership brought Paint Branch to its current reward. I wish Paint Branch High School continued success in achieving excellence in education.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF JOHN C. McMEEKIN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS UPCOMING RETIREMENT FROM THE CROZER-KEYSTONE HEALTH SYSTEM

### HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 16, 2000*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and an honor to have this opportunity to pay tribute to one of the truly outstanding individuals from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Mr. John C. McMeekin. Early next year John McMeekin will retire from his position as President and Chief Executive Officer of Crozer-Keystone Health System where he has served since 1990. The health care industry will lose a trailblazing leader when Jack steps down.

John McMeekin has been a leader in the health care field for over thirty-five years and his service is truly commendable. The Crozer-Keystone Health System consists of five hospitals with a licensed capacity of over 1200 beds, four long term care facilities totaling 800 licensed beds, a licensed HMO managed care organization and a network of salaried primary care and specialty physicians. System revenues totaled more than \$500 million in fiscal year 2000. Before joining Crozer-Chester Medical Center in 1983, Mr. McMeekin was a senior officer of Philadelphia Blue Cross and began his health career at Pennsylvania Hospital in 1965. He and his family reside in Philadelphia.

Mr. McMeekin is past Chairman of the Hospital & Health System Association of Pennsylvania and Chairman of their holding company, Health Alliance of Pennsylvania. In addition, he serves on the Board of VHA, the Board of Executive Committee of the American Hospital Association and chairs the AHA Regional Policy Group II. He also served on the Executive Committee and Board of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce and was a trustee of Elwyn Institute. For twelve years Mr. McMeekin served as Public Governor on the Board of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange. He is a graduate of Penn State University and holds a Masters degree from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

In September 1996 Crozer-Keystone opened their 200,000 square-foot, \$40 million Healthplex, a combination of a 40-bed acute care hospital and emergency service which includes 35,000 square feet of physician offices, four ambulatory surgical suites, a comprehensive rehabilitation facility and a large Sports and Fitness Club. Membership at the end of fiscal year 2000 was approximately 7,000.

Under Mr. McMeekin's able leadership, Crozer-Keystone served as an Action Learning Lab for AHA in November 1996 and has been cited for his work in measuring and monitoring the health status of its county of 550,000 people and for its investment in Information Systems. In February 1997 they began marketing their MedCarePlus directly to Medicare beneficiaries as one of the eight provider-sponsored HCFA Medicare Choices demonstration sites. Crozer-Keystone is a major teaching affiliate of Temple University in Philadelphia and

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a member of the Council of Teaching Hospital and the National Chronic Care Consortium.

Mr. McMeekin's distinguished career includes service on numerous boards and associations including American College of Healthcare Executives, American Hospital Association, Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania, and the Union League of Philadelphia. His efforts have not gone unrecognized. Included among the awards he has received are: Distinguished Performance in Management Award (Widener University, 1995); Health Care Hero's Award (Philadelphia Business Journal, 1996); First Carl E. Moore Award for Health Care Leadership (Philadelphia Health Management Corporation, 1998) and First Health System Innovations and Development Award (National Health Strategies, 1998).

Mr. Speaker, the distinguished career of John C. McMeekin places him in the first rank of outstanding health care leaders of our time. His service to his profession and his fellow man serves as benchmark for us all. I know Jack personally. He is a good friend, a dedicated family man, and a patriotic citizen. It has been a pleasure to work closely with him, and an honor to be his friend.

At this time, I would ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to John C. McMeekin. On the occasion of his retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of Crozer-Keystone Health System, we thank him for his dedicated service and we wish him all the best for the future.

IN MEMORY OF ZOE ANN ORR  
MARCUS

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 16, 2000*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the life of Zoe Ann Orr Marcus of Watsonville, California. Ms. Marcus, an integral part of the Pajaro Valley communities, died on Thursday, September 28, 2000.

Zoe was born in 1913 in Berkeley, California, but soon moved south to San Jose with her parents. She graduated from Stanford University with a degree in biological sciences, and received her master's degree in marine biology from Hopkins Marine Station in Pacific Grove. She later returned to Stanford to earn her teaching credentials. It was at Stanford that she met her future husband, Frank Fletcher Orr, and they were married in 1941. At that time, Mr. Orr was the managing editor of the Watsonville Register Pajaronian, but he was to later serve with the U.S. Army in the European Theater during World War II. While he served as chief of still-picture operations, Ms. Marcus taught at Woods Hole Marine Institute in Massachusetts.

After the war, the couple returned to Watsonville, and in 1949 Mr. Orr was named editor of the Pajaronian. It was at this time that Mr. Orr purchased his family homestead on what is now East Beach Street in Watsonville. This Victorian farmhouse was built in 1868 by Mr. Orr's great-grandfather, Godfrey Bockius. Bockius was one of the